

A/ Typically, the amount of cobalt ion in the saturable absorber Q-switch of the invention is greater than about 0.02 atomic percent. Preferably, the amount of cobalt ion present is in an amount in a range of between about 0.02 and about 0.043 atomic percent of the monocrystalline lattice.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

In the Claims

Please amend Claim 20. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

- A/ 20. (Amended) The laser system of Claim 17, wherein the lasing element is an Er:Yb:glass or Er<sup>3+</sup>:glass lasing element.

REMARKS

The remainder of this Amendment is set forth under appropriate subheadings for the convenience of the Examiner.

I. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (SIDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the SIDS is respectfully requested.

II. Amendment to the Specification

In order to clarify the meaning of the sentence on page 7, lines 5-7 of the specification, Applicant has amended the sentence to remove the reference to weight percent of cobalt and leave in the reference to atomic percent of cobalt. This amendment makes the amended sentence consistent with the sentence on page 7, lines 4-5 of the specification.